

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Currently amended) A method for sharing a security context between  
2 different sessions on a database server, comprising:  
3 receiving a request at the database server through a database session  
4 between the database server and an application on a database client;  
5 looking up an identifier for an application client that identifies a client of  
6 the application, the identifier having been previously associated with the database  
7 session;  
8 using the identifier to look up the security context for the application client  
9 within a storage area associated with the database server;  
10 wherein the security context includes attributes related to the application  
11 client; ~~and~~  
12 receiving the security context for the application client from the database  
13 client;  
14 inserting the security context into the storage area associated with the  
15 database server so that the security context can be indexed by the identifier for the  
16 application client;  
17 performing a database operation to satisfy the request;  
18 wherein performing the database operation involves enforcing access  
19 rights associated with the security context; and  
20 allowing the application client to use the same security context through a  
21 second application and a second database session by:

22                    receiving a second request at the database server through  
23                    the second database session with the second application,  
24                    looking up the identifier for the application client, the  
25                    identifier having been previously associated with the second  
26                    database session, and  
27                    using the identifier to look up the security context for the  
28                    application client within the storage area associated with the  
29                    database server.

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1                    2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the request includes a  
2                    database query directed to a database on the database server.

1                    3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein performing the database  
2                    operation involves modifying the database query to enforce access rights  
3                    associated with the security context.

1                    4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the identifier for the  
2                    application client identifies a user of the application that is sending the request to  
3                    the database server.

1                    5. (Original) The method of claim 1,  
2                    wherein the database client is an application server that is sending the  
3                    request to the database server; and  
4                    wherein the identifier for the application client identifies an application  
5                    session between the application on the application server and the client of the  
6                    application.

1                    6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising:

2 receiving a request from the application to change the application session  
3 associated with the database session; and  
4 changing the application session associated with the database session.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising facilitating  
2 connection pooling by periodically changing the application session associated  
3 with the database session in order to channel requests associated with multiple  
4 application sessions through the database session.

1 8-9. (Canceled).

1 10. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing  
2 instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a  
3 method for sharing a security context between different sessions on a database  
4 server, the method comprising:

5 receiving a request at the database server through a database session  
6 between the database server and an application on a database client;  
7 looking up an identifier for an application client that identifies a client of  
8 the application, the identifier having been previously associated with the database  
9 session;

10 using the identifier to look up the security context for the application client  
11 within a storage area associated with the database server;

12 wherein the security context includes attributes related to the application  
13 client; and

14 receiving the security context for the application client from the database  
15 client;

16 | inserting the security context into the storage area associated with the  
17 | database server so that the security context can be indexed by the identifier for the  
18 | application client;  
19 |       performing a database operation to satisfy the request;  
20 |       wherein performing the database operation involves enforcing access  
21 | rights associated with the security context; and  
22 |       allowing the application client to use the same security context through a  
23 | second application and a second database session by:  
24 |               receiving a second request at the database server through  
25 |               the second database session with the second application,  
26 |               looking up the identifier for the application client, the  
27 |               identifier having been previously associated with the second  
28 |               database session, and  
29 |               using the identifier to look up the security context for the  
30 |               application client within the storage area associated with the  
31 |               database server.


1       11. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10,  
2       wherein the request includes a database query directed to a database on the  
3       database server.

1       12. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 11,  
2       wherein performing the database operation involves modifying the database query  
3       to enforce access rights associated with the security context.

1       13. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10,  
2       wherein the identifier for the application client identifies a user of the application  
3       that is sending the request to the database server.

1 14. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 10,  
2 wherein the database client is an application server that is sending the  
3 request to the database server; and  
4 wherein the identifier for the application client identifies an application  
5 session between the application on the application server and the client of the  
6 application.

1 15. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 14,  
2 wherein the method further comprises:  
3 receiving a request from the application to change the application session  
4 associated with the database session; and  
5 changing the application session associated with the database session.

 1 16. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 14,  
2 wherein the method further comprises facilitating connection pooling by  
3 periodically changing the application session associated with the database session  
4 in order to channel requests associated with multiple application sessions through  
5 the database session.

1 17-18. (Canceled).

1 19. (Currently amended) An apparatus that facilitates sharing a security  
2 context between different sessions on a database server, comprising:  
3 a receiving mechanism that is configured to receive a request at the  
4 database server through a database session between the database server and an  
5 application on a database client;  
6 wherein the receiving mechanism is further configured to receive the  
7 security context for the application client from the database client;

8        wherein the receiving mechanism is further configured to receive a second  
9        request at the database server through a second database session between the  
10       database server and a second application;

11       a lookup mechanism that is configured to look up an identifier for an  
12       application client that identifies a client of the application, the identifier having  
13       been previously associated with the database session;

14       wherein the lookup mechanism is configured to use the identifier to look  
15       up the security context for the application client within a storage area associated  
16       with the database server;

17       wherein the lookup mechanism is further configured to look up the  
18       identifier for the application client, the identifier having been previously  
19       associated with the second database session;

20       wherein the lookup mechanism is further configured to use the identifier to  
21       look up the security context for the application client within the storage area  
22       associated with the database server;

23       wherein the security context includes attributes related to the application  
24       client; and

25       a security context initialization mechanism that is configured to insert the  
26       security context into the storage area associated with the database server so that  
27       the security context can be indexed by the identifier for the application client; and

28       a database engine that is configured to perform a database operation to  
29       satisfy the request;

30       wherein performing the database operation involves enforcing access  
31       rights associated with the security context.

1       20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the request includes a  
2       database query directed to a database on the database server.

1 21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the database engine is  
2 configured to perform the database operation by modifying the database query to  
3 enforce access rights associated with the security context.

1 22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the identifier for the  
2 application client identifies a user of the application that is sending the request to  
3 the database server.

1 23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19,  
2 wherein the database client is an application server that is sending the  
3 request to the database server; and  
4 wherein the identifier for the application client identifies an application  
5 session between the application on the application server and the client of the  
6 application.

1 24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the receiving  
2 mechanism is additionally configured to receive a request from the application to  
3 change the application session associated with the database session; and  
4 further comprising a changing mechanism that is configured to change the  
5 application session associated with the database session in response to the request.

1 25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the changing  
2 mechanism is further configured to facilitate connection pooling by periodically  
3 changing the application session associated with the database session in order to  
4 channel requests associated with multiple application sessions through the  
5 database session.

1 26-27. (Canceled).